139A INT. TOWN CAR - NEIL MCCAULEY

Neil didn't expect this contact. What does Hanna intend? Both men look at each other.

NEIL
So?

HANNA
Let's talk.

NEIL
(beat; then)
Sure. Buy me a cup of coffee.

As Hanna crosses back to his car...

CUT TO:

140 INT. RESTAURANT - HANNA + NEIL - NIGHT 140

at a table. Headlights stream by: business people, families going on vacations, people living normal lives who have never used guns, never experienced physical violence, never been stolen from and never steal. Surrounded on all sides by this flow of normalcy:

HANNA
Seven years in San Quentin. In the hole for three. McNeil before that.

NEIL
Yeah.

HANNA
McNeil as tough as they say?

NEIL
You looking to become a penologist?

HANNA
You lookin' to go back? I chased down some crews, the guys looked at bein' out as a run: steal until they got busted back.

NEIL
You must have worked some dip-shit crews.

HANNA
I worked all kinds.

DEADLINE

NEIL
(pause)
You see me doing thrill-seeker liquor store holdups with a 'Born to Lose' tattoo on my chest?

HANNA
No, I do not.

NEIL
Right. And I...
(low threat)
I am never going back.

The adversarial intensity is eye-to-eye.

HANNA
Then don't take down scores.

NEIL
I do what I do best. I take scores. You do what you do best: trying to stop guys like me.

HANNA
You never wanted a regular-type life?

NEIL
What the fuck is that? Barbecues and ballgames?

HANNA
Yeah.

NEIL
This regular-type life? That your life?

HANNA
No. My life is a disaster zone. I got a step-daughter who's fucked-up 'cause her real father's a banal asshole. My wife and I are passing each other on the downslope of our marriage. Cause every moment I got I spend chasing guys like you around the block.

DEADLINE

NEIL
A guy told me one time, don't let yourself get attached to anything you're not willing to walk out on, if you feel the heat around the corner in 30 seconds flat.
(pause)
So, if you are on me and you gotta move when I move, how do you expect to keep a marriage?

HANNA
What are you, a monk?

NEIL
No.
(pause)
I got a woman.

HANNA
What do you tell her?

NEIL
She thinks I'm a salesman.

HANNA
And if you spot me around the corner...You gonna walk out? Not say goodbye?

NEIL
(yes)
That's the discipline.

HANNA
That's pretty vacant.

NEIL
~~Yeah?~~
(beat)
It is what it is. That or go do somethin' else.

HANNA
I don't know how to do anything else.

NEIL
Neither do I.

HANNA
And I don't much want to.

TO MM: focus as very low-key challenge: adversarial tone.

DEADLINE

CHILL's nature cosmic rules in that makes them both the same & poses them in conflict.

the TRP
- the COSMIC view of LIFE, to the
- what actually
- what can be lost

revise drill

ALT vers: defensive

NEIL
(the shared confession)
...neither do I.

HANNA
You know, I get this recurring dream. I'm at this big banquet table and all the victims of all the murders I've worked are at the banquet table. They're looking at me with black eyeballs 'cause they got eightball hemorrhages from head shot wounds. Big bloated balloon people 'cause I found 'em after two weeks under the bed when the neighbors reported the smell. They're all there.

NEIL
What do they say?

HANNA
Nothing.

NEIL (O.S.)
There's no talk?

HANNA
No. They don't have anything to say. We look at each other. They look at me. That's the dream.

NEIL
I have one where I'm drowning. And I gotta make myself wake up and start breathing or I'll die in my sleep.

HANNA
You know what it's about?

NEIL
Yeah. Having enough time.

HANNA
Time enough to do what you want to do?

NEIL
That's right.

HANNA
You doing it now?

TO N: You get the same right to choose to do in life as he does.

[Needs more access]

ULTRA intimate now

T 13 B
10 B
12 act

5A neg
6A funny
10A neg
11A - neg
12A funny
13A - neg

Always expectations are people wisdom to "nothing" following jobs

NOTE: Exchanged dreams is where partship maximized

AL: succinct, sincere, trying to understand

DEADLINE

NEIL
No. Not yet.

Both of these guys look at each other and recognize the mutuality of their condition. Hanna's light laughter.

HANNA
We're sitting here like a coupla regular fellas. You do what you do. I do what I gotta do. And now that we been face-to-face, if I am there and I got to put you away?
(pause)
I won't like it. But, if it is you or some poor bastard who's wife you're going to turn into a widow, brother, you are gonna go down. 'Cause you did not have to be there. You coulda been a...been a mailman.

NEIL
There's a flip side to that coin. What if you do got me boxed in, and I gotta put you down.
(beat)
'Cause no matter what, you will not get in my way.
(beat)
Now that we been face-to-face... But I will not hesitate. Not for a second.

HANNA
(smiles)
Maybe it'll happen that way. Or who knows...

NEIL
...maybe we'll never see each other again.

They look at each other for a moment. Neil's wry smile.

HANNA
(to waitress)
Can we have the bill.

CUT TO:

141 INT. HANNA'S OFFICE - HANNA - NIGHT 141

entering.

DEADLINE